

THE LEITRIM ASSOCIATION IN LONDON . 1981

At a meeting of the association at the Irish Centre 5th. May 1981
the following members were present:-

The Chairman ; Michael Winters
The Treasurer ; Father Butler
The Secretary ; Doris Daly

Members:

Michael Mulvanerty : Mr. & Mrs. S. Ryan : Mr. & Mrs. C Mulvanerty ;
Adrian Fleming : John McGarry : Tommy Maguire

The meeting was opened by the chairman who requested the secretary to read the minutes of the last meeting, which were agreed and signed by the chairman.

THE SOCIAL:

The social for the 8th May was discussed . Members reported that the sale of tickets was slow, however the response was favourable nevertheless. It was previously hoped to offer Boxty at the Social, however the marathon task of producing the Boxty could not be undertaken by the committee at this time.

A Boxty evening could be held in the Autumn, and volunteers for the preparation of this delicacy would be recruited later.

Refreshments would be available at the Social from the Irish Centre's kitchens at a very competitive prices.

ADVERTISING.

The secretary reported that the cost of the advertisement in the "Irish Post" had risen, however this time the cost would remain the same as previous charges, that would be £45.00. Invoice herewith. The Kennedy Column had not publicised the Social owing to the Easter Bank holidays keeping staff away from the office, however it was to be remembered that in future "The Irish Post" required news items at least one month in advance of deadline date which now was, the FRIDAY previous to circulation date. Advertisements one clear week previous to circulation date. "The Post" had telephoned the secretary and offered this information.

A poster had been produced and circulated by the secretary.

Duties.

It was agreed by the male members to take turns to man the door at the social.

The Leitrim Guardian would be sold by Mrs. Bernadette Ryan.

The Raffle.

It was agreed to sell tickets , 50p per strip. rather than offer the £1 with the donors name on it, as being more productive and satisfying. The prizes offered : ONE BOTTLE OF WHISKEY : TWO BOTTLES OF SHERRY : TWO BOTTLES OF WINE : making five prizes in all. The bar extension had not been applied for, the Manager of the Centre was contacted and agreed to make the necessary representations the very next morning. 6/5/'81.

All members would try to attend the Social.

5th. May 1981 contd.:-

The Luton Social:

The chairman and the secretary and Mr. and Mrs Fleming attended the Luton Dinner and Dance. The chairman reported back that they had been very favourably received indeed. The London Leitrim Association donated a bottle of Brandy to the Luton raffle.

The Luton Leitrim Association wished us every success in this our Silver Jubilee year. In a later telephone call from their Chairman to our Secretary the hope was expressed that the Luton Association would organise a coach party of 80 persons to attend the 13th June D & D. in London. The secretary confirmed this quantity could be catered for and awaited confirmation .

Doris Daly then put it to the committee ^{that} a "discount" rate could be offered to their sister organisation for a large group booking. It was tentatively agreed that a "discount" ^{or}merit of some kind might be in order, however to await confirmation of the booking before arriving at a decision.

THE SILVER JUBILEE DINNER AND DANCE:

The discussion was opened by Michael Mulvanerty who reported back from his visit to Leitrim . He had met with and discussed the Jubilee with several patrons of our organisation. Because of the "AN Tostal" events Mr. Joe Mooney could not journey to London. Senator Ellis might also be unable to attend because of the election/political stacis in Eire at this time. (The County Manager and Dev.Team would attend the Irish Festival.) Therefore it was decided to hold another Dinner & Dance in the Autumn with a guest list drawn from these who could not attend the June function. A date was arrived at, goverened by the availability of The Irish Centre, Friday 16th. October was booked for our next Dinner & Dance, however if a Saturday booking for the Centre became vacant in the mean time it would be taken, and the Friday venue cancelled.

The Guest List.

Doris Daly read out the names on the present guest list (attached herewith) and reported back that The Cardinal Hume, The two Irish bishops(Kilmore and Ardagh) The Irish Ambassador, had previous engagements and with regret could not attend. Further correspondence requesting deputies had taken place. Michael Winters reported that Father Phair Southwood parish would attend as deputy for The Bishop of Kilmore. Several guests had not as yet replied and this would be discussed at a later meeting.

Tommy Maguire requested that every effort be made to have the Olympic Yacht team at the Dinner and Dance, and the Secretary assured him that Mr. Tom Clancy had been invited and would be contacted by telephone next day.

Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Dunn would be pleased to attend. His letter was read out by the secretary, Gregory Dune's newspaper "The Leitrim Observer" offered free publicity and as many articles as we cared to submit, he would publish, in relation to our Silver Jubilee year. He would like to have the copy in as soon as possible to give the maximum coverage to the Jubilee celebrations. Father Butler our PRO was asked to supply the copy, and any old photographs available would be submitted soonest.

Photographer.

On the advise of Gregory Dune, a press photographer must be sought to produce the quality photographs so necessary for reproduction in the Press. It would be even better if a Leitrim person could do the work. Michael Mulvanerty suggested Ballinamore Joe Green's daughter , and he agreed to pursue the matter before the next meeting. Alternately the free lance photographer M. McNally would be contacted.

However everything must be done to avoid upsetting any arrangements photographer Carol Easton had with the Irish Centre, and the utmost diplomacy must be exercised in this direction.

5th. May 1981 contd.

The Publicity.

Father Butler would write to the Leitrim Observer as otherwise discussed Doris Daly would arrange advertisements in the "Irish Post". After discussion about the cost of space it was agreed to place TWO SMALL ads in the Post costing circa £45. each. to appear in the following editions:- May 16th. and May 30th. Then seek back up publicity with a column in the Peter Kennedy Column for the 23rd May and the 7th. June.

This permutation would give the maximum coverage for the minimum cost.

There was discussion among the members as to whose telephone no. should appear in the advertisement pertaining to the sale of tickets.

The chairman would approach Mrs. McGreal for permission to use her Number and the Secretary would give her name, and telephone freedom every pm, to facilitate the sale of tickets. Other members feared they might not be free to man their telephones and therefore declined.

The Music.

The Band had not as yet been booked and after discussion about the available bands Micheal Mulvanerty left the meeting and telephoned "The Shannaghgolden Dance Band" . He returned with the information that this band accepted our booking for 13th. June. The secretary agreed to contact "Mr. PJ Hynes" to confirm the booking in writing clearly stating our conditions. Fee £100.00 Set up and ready by 8pm for the National Anthem after "Grace" Dancing to 2 am

The Extention up to 2am applied for.

THE HISTORY OF THE ASSOCIATION IN PRINT.

Long and arduous discussion ensued about the format of the proposed "HISTORY" Michael Mulvanerty insisted on a prestigious production , with photographs, forewards, articles, personal profiles, obituary tributes ect. Michael Winters suggested the advertising would defray the cost of production , but would eat the profits also. Father Butler could produce a "potted history" and reproduce it at nominal cost, however the sum of £40 per page of advertising could not honestly be charged for this type of production . After much consideration it was agreed to opt for the prestigious production , this would take several months hard work, and every effort would be made to have the History in circulation by the October Dance. As wide a circulation as possible to be aimed at. Father Butler had lists of Leitrim businesses a at home and in Britain, he would set about contacting them immediately and sell advertising space.

After discussing the cost per page for advertising the sum of £40 eas mentioned, however it was decided to have Fathen Butler sound out the overall cost of the production we had in mind, before a price per page could satisfactorily be arrived at. The selling price of the History could then be arrived at, also. Discussion about free copies and to whom would be discussed at a later date.

The chairman thanked the committee for the very productive meeting and for the commitment of the members.

The next meeting would be held 18th. May .

THE SILVER JUBILEE GUEST LIST.....

INVITATIONS SENT OUT TO THE FOLLOWING:-

- The Cardinal Basil HumeDeputy.....Perhaps October *
- The Bishop of Kilmore.....Deputy..... Father Phair..... do
- The Bishop of Ardagh & C.Deputy..... do
- The Irish AmbassadorDeputy..... do
- Mr. & Mrs. G. Dunne 2
- Mr. & Mrs. R. Laird..... ?
- Aidan Nangle} ?
- Frances Cryan.....} ?
- Senator Ellis..... 1
- Tom Clancy.....} 1
- The Crew.....} ?2
- Joe Mooney.....NO Perhaps October. *
- Brian Nangle..... 1
- Mr. & Mrs. W McGarty..... 2
- Sean McQueeney
- Mr. & Mrs Higgins 2
- Mrs. P. Dillon (Lee)..... No.....Perhaps October. *
- Mr. & Mrs Tom Blessington.....
- Joe Bohan (footballer)..... unable to contact.
- P. McPartland.....
- FED.....
- CICA.....
- Luton Leitrim ASS.....
- James Fox President.....CARD to be sent
- Mrs. McGreal do CARD to be sent
- Frank Murphy..... Do.

18/5/'81

AGENDA.

THE MINUTES.

THE SOCIAL

THE DINNER AND DANCE

ADVERTISING AND PUBLICITY

THE GUEST LIST

THE MUSIC

THE PHOTOGRAPHER

THE LUTON CONTINGENT

THE DISTRIBUTION OF TICKETS.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

THE "HISTORY"

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING